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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/834,848	04/13/2001	Gareth Geoffrey Hougham	YOR920000548US1	8391

7590 01/14/2003

Alvin J. Riddles
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EXAMINER

ZIMMERMAN, JOHN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1775	

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT PAPER

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DATE MAILED:

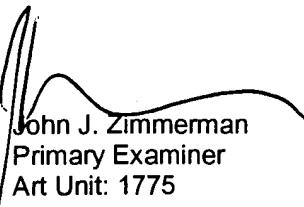
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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Notice of Nonresponsive Amendment

The reply filed on January 3, 2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant did not address the rejection under 35 USC 101 set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the prior Office Action. In addition, applicant's arguments appear to suggest that all pending claims are "restricted to the handling of the spillage of mercury with a high surface area substrate with a gold coating" when in reality independent claim 6 contains no such limitations. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Zimmerman whose telephone number is (703) 308-2512.


John J. Zimmerman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1775